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1964/08/02

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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~~TOP SECRET~~

Action

Info

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TO RUHPA/CINCPAC

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RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/WHITE HOUSE

INFO ZEN/AMEMB SAIGON

BT

TOP SECRET SPECAT MACJ 7252

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR FORRESTAL, OSD FOR MCNAMARA, MCNAUGHTON AND ANTHIS, WHITEHOUSE FOR MCGEORGE BUNDY, CIA FOR MCCONE, CARTER AND HELMS, JCS FOR GEN WHEELER, INFO AMEMB SAIGON FOR AMB TAYLOR, SULLIVEN, CINCPAC FOR ADY SHARP.

CAPABILITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT OF B-57'S

1. DURING THE COURSE OF A BRIEFING FOR AMBASSADOR TAYLOR ON STATUS OF PLANNING FOR AIR STRIKES AGAINST NVN, HE WAS INFORMED ON CURRENT CAPABILITIES TO EMPLOY B-57

PAGE 2 RUNSMA 17 TOP SECRET SPECAT
AIRCRAFT EITHER AS FARGATE OR VNAF.

2. THE AMBASSADOR INDICATED THAT OUR CURRENT CAPABILITIES MIGHT NOT FULLY BE APPRECIATED AT THE WASHINGTON LEVEL. CONSEQUENTLY, THESE CAPABILITIES ARE CITE FOR INFORMATION OF ALL CONCERNED.

A. FOR VNAF PILOTS ARE MISSION CAPABLE IN THE B-57.

B. TWO ADDITIONAL VNAF PILOTS WILL COMPLETE B-57 TRAINING IN TWO WEEKS AND THEREAFTER WILL BE MISSION CAPABLE.

C. THREE DUAL-CONTROL B-57'S ARE ON HAND AND CAN BE MANNED BY A VNAF PILOT AND A USAF INSTRUCTOR/PILOT.

D. ANY OR ALL OF B-57'S AT CLARK CAN BE MANNED BY USAF PILOT AND VNAF NAVIGATOR CREW. GP-4

BT

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O, 3:30 A.M., 8/2/64

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By TB, NARS, Date 4-20-76

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